Amebiasis

Bureau of Epidemiology and Disease Control Services
Office of Infectious Disease

WHAT IS AMEBIASIS?

Also known as amebic dysentery, amebiasis is an illness caused by a germ, called an amoeba.

HOW IS IT SPREAD?

The germ that causes this illness is spread through poop, which can get into water or onto food and travel person to person by shaking hands. It can also get onto surfaces when people touch them.

WHO CAN GET IT?

Anyone can get this illness, but people who drink dirty water or come into contact with poop during sexual activity are more at risk.

HOW DO I AVOID GETTING

Wash your hands with soap after using the toilet or changing a diaper.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

Nausea
Loose stool
Fever

Weight loss

Abdominal tenderness

Contact

AZ Department of Health Services
Office of Infectious Disease
602-364-3676
www.azhealth.gov/waterborne

